

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### FORT PULASKI NATIONAL MONUMENT LEASE AUTHORIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JACK KINGSTON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 5, 2011*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support passage of S. 535, the Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act, which would allow the Savannah Bar Pilots 10-year leases for their operating base on Cockspur Island which they have used continuously in cooperation with the National Park Service since 1940. I also would like to thank Chairman HASTINGS and Chairman BISHOP for holding hearings and bringing this bill to the Floor today.

The Savannah Bar Pilots were founded in 1864, making them one of the nation's oldest pilots associations. Since then, they have helped Savannah grow into the nation's fourth largest seaport and fastest growing port on the East Coast. Bar Pilots assist cargo ships navigating the Savannah River and guide them 20 miles upriver to either the Georgia Port Authority's Garden City Terminal or Ocean Terminal, both of which make up the Savannah Port.

The Bar Pilots' expertise is essential in helping ships reach the terminals. Every cargo ship above 200 gross tons—which is nearly every ship that calls on the Port of Savannah—must have a bar pilot on board. After an incoming ship contacts the pilots and a meeting is established, the pilots depart from their operating base on Cockspur Island and are ferried on one of several pilot boats up to 12 miles offshore to the “pilotage grounds.” There they board the cargo ship and safely guide them through the channel. Cockspur Island is the ideal location for the operating base, situated just inside the mouth of the Savannah River separating the north and south channel. Other than this location, there is no other available land near the Savannah River entrance from which the pilot boats can quickly and efficiently reach the pilotage grounds in the Atlantic. If the pilots are forced to move, they would have to move inland, leading to longer transit times and ship delays, increased safety risks in stormy weather, and increased fuel usage. The Bar Pilots' use of the Park Service land is a unique situation in which the pilots provide a crucial public service and also act as good neighbors to one of Coastal Georgia's most treasured historic sites.

S. 535 will allow the Bar Pilots to have 10-year leases with the National Park Service. Bar Pilots have been using this land since 1940 under a Special Lease Permit agreement, sometimes having to renew the permit on a year-to-year basis. The National Park Service, the Bar Pilots, and local authorities have worked together to draft this language which will save all parties involved time and paperwork. Additionally, the language protects

the integrity of the park and Fort Pulaski National Monument. The language explicitly states that the rental fee paid by the Bar Pilots will be based on a fair market value and be subject to change by the Secretary of the Interior if property preservation, maintenance, or repair require increased outlays. This bill is identical to H.R. 4773, also titled the Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act, which passed the House during the 111th Congress.

I thank Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member LUJÁN for their support of S. 535, and I urge my colleagues to pass the bill.

HONORING JEREMIAH THOR  
SANCHO

**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 9, 2011*

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and service of Jeremiah Thor Sancho, a Specialist with the United States Army, who laid down his life for our freedoms on October 13, 2011, while performing his duties in the Kandahar Province of Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Mr. Sancho was a JRROTC Member and 2006 Graduate of Palm Bay High School, who honorably served his country as a member of the A Troop, 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York.

Mr. Sancho's military decorations include: The Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Army Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, and the National Defense Medal.

Jeremiah, or “Jerry” as he was better known to friends and loved ones, is survived by his wife, RaiAnne Sancho; his loving parents Janet and Bernardo Diaz; Sister, Jaell Diaz; Brothers Bernardo “E.J.” Diaz, Jovon A. Diaz; Aunt, Darlene Caraballo; Uncle, Edward Anthony Izquierdo; Grand Parents, Edward Izquierdo, Enrique Diaz, Gary and Jeannie Boyer; Mother-in-law, Sharon Bocco; Father-in-law, Joe Bocco; Brother-in-law, Joseph Bocco; Sister-in-law, Catherine Bocco; and many more friends and family members. Several hundred people attended the memorial service that was conducted at the First Baptist Church of Melbourne in Melbourne, Florida on October 28, 2011.

Jerry will be remembered by those who admired him as a fun loving, avid comic-book fan, gamer, and budding artist. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

There's no greater honor than to lay your life down for another. Jeremiah T Sancho paid the ultimate sacrifice and we'll always remember him for that. We've lost another great

American, and he will be truly missed. Jerry is a true hero.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 9, 2011*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to illness, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

December 6, 2011

Rollcall vote 889, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 10) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law, and for other purposes—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 890, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 10) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law, and for other purposes—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 891, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, To amend section 2710 of title 18, United States Code, to clarify that a video tape service provider may obtain a consumer's informed, written consent on an ongoing basis and that consent may be obtained through the Internet—I would have voted “aye.”

December 7, 2011

Rollcall vote 892, On Motion to Instruct Conferees, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 893, On Motion to Close Portions of Conference, To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 894, On Motion to Instruct Conferees, Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 895, Johnson of Georgia Part B Amendment No. 2, On Agreeing to the Amendment—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 896, Schrader of Oregon Part B Amendment No. 3, On Agreeing to the Amendment—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 897, McCarthy of New York Part B Amendment No. 5, On Agreeing to the Amendment—I would have voted “nay.”

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.